

Farmers Branch Manske Library Board Minutes May 12, 2016

Attending Board Members: Charles Sullivan, Ginny Welch, Sue Saiter, Andy Olivo, Bruce Crozier, Rick Lyon, Linda Curry, Ruth Ann Parish, Diane Graifemberg. Vicki Goode

Attending Staff: Denise Wallace, Library Director; Shawna Eikenberry, City of FB Management Analyst; Liaison to library board

Guests: Pat Edmiston, Mickey Coalwell, LSSI Regional Manager

[There was no meeting held April 14 due to lack of a quorum. A Special Called Meeting was scheduled for April 27, but was not held due to lack of a quorum.]

Chair Charles Sullivan called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Andy Olivo moved to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2016 meeting as e-mailed. Ruth Ann seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Ginny Welch reviewed the Suggestion Box contents which Rick had previously read, made notes and commented that most did not require a reply. Ginny mentioned one comment that said the library was too intrusive into individual privacy. Denise was aware of the complaint and said it stemmed from the recent directive the library had received to offer assistance to patrons in registering to vote. Charles suggested that a written notice explaining why the library was assisting with voter registration might be useful if placed in a high visibility location.

Another comment stated that they "wished the library sold more." Rick commented that the Suggestion Box might need to be moved in the direct line of sight of library employees, as he had found scribbles and trash in the box that might not have been put in a box which was constantly in view. The board was in general agreement and Denise will see that the box is moved to the more visible side of the post in view of the circulation desk.

Rick reviewed the upcoming Community events with Shawna's assistance. The weekend Farmers Market was well received by the citizens and should continue in its present location each weekend.

Linda Curry listed a number of titles on the Acquisition List which included 426 items. She mentioned that the 54th book in the ***Magic Tree House*** series has been issued recently. Denise noted that they remain very popular.

Diane Graifemberg said that the TLA website listed many ways for libraries to celebrate the love of learning. The ALA encourages libraries to get communities involved. The Annual conference will be held in Orlando June 23-28.

Shawna reports that the city is working on implementing strategic goals. Currently they are getting bid proposals on purchasing and installing new automated equipment to receive and process returned library items. Rick mentioned that he was interested in the grant-writing portion of the Strategic Plan. Denise asked if any board member is interested in helping write proposals. If so she can email grant information.

Shawna reviewed the Board Attendance Policy and said we need to be more explicit in the minutes as to whether absences meet the criteria to be excused. In the future our agenda may include items such as 'Consider absence of X board member'. Charles moved to excuse the absences of the April 14 Board meeting and the April 27 Special called meeting. There was no opposition to his proposal, so it passed unanimously.

Shawna then gave an update on the work of the Citizen Bond Committee and its Sub-Committees. The Arts and Culture Sub-Committee is considering ideas regarding the library and wants input from the Library Board. We spent time brain storming what we would like to see in a future library. Many suggestions were offered to expand, but all were in favor of staying at the current sight. Andy suggested a covered sky bridge across the creek to a future addition to the library. A need for parking was discussed. Ruth Ann would like to see the entrance enhanced and made much more inviting. Rick and Charles mentioned that the highest level of technology available should be in place. Next Wednesday the Sub-Committee will meet at the Firehouse Theater and interested library board members are welcome to attend.

Denise quickly reviewed the upcoming events on the Library Calendar including an Adult Spelling Bee this Saturday. We will hear the Summer Reading Plans at the next meeting. Charles suggested that we take a look at Bruce's point about our still unreliable door counter next month.

Linda Curry shared a newspaper article quote from children's author Beverly Cleary, on the occasion of her 100th birthday, who said, "We measure child poverty by household income, but a better metric might be how often a child hears stories read aloud."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 PM

Approved:


Chairperson


Secretary for Vicki Goode